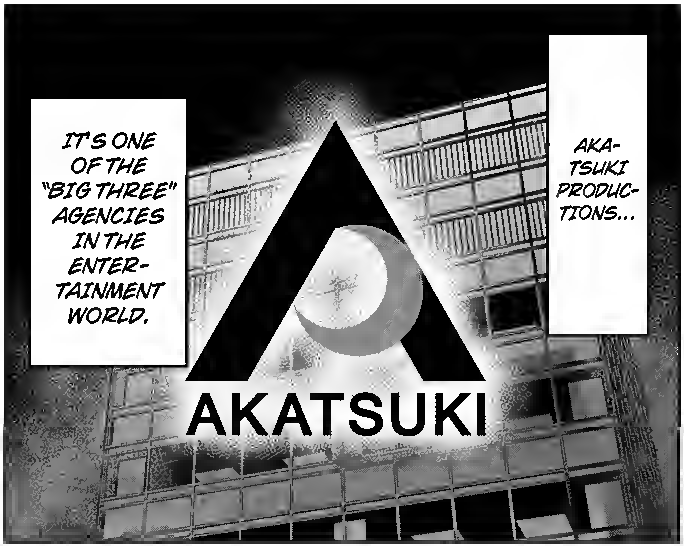
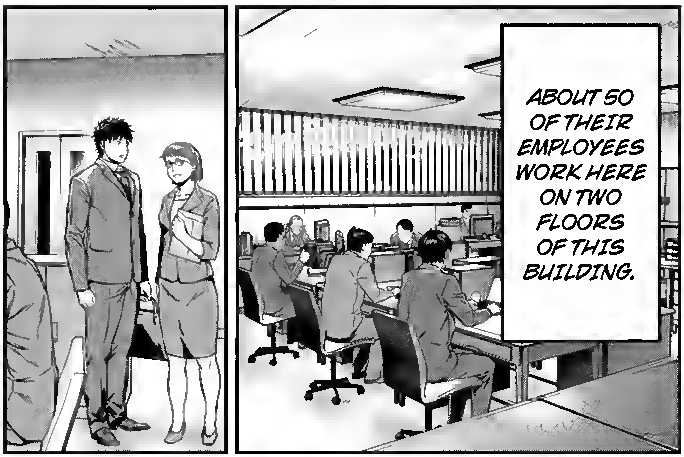




MangaBox

ROPPONGI 六本木ブラッククロス
BLACK CROSS

STORY: KIMO YANAGISAWA
ART: YOUSUKE MORI
TRANSLATION BY JENNIFER J. WARD
ADAPTATION BY ALEXANDRA E. SWANSON
YKS SERVICES LLC/SKY JAPAN, INC.

HR MANAGER OOTA! WE HAVE A NEWBIE!
OHO! KUROKI-KUN! WEL-COME!
NICE TO MEET YOU!
OKAY! THEN LET'S GO GREET THE CEO!
HUH? RIGHT AWAY?
SURE
IT'S JUST ONE FLOOR UP, SO LET'S TAKE THE STAIRS.
IT'S GOOD FOR YOU!

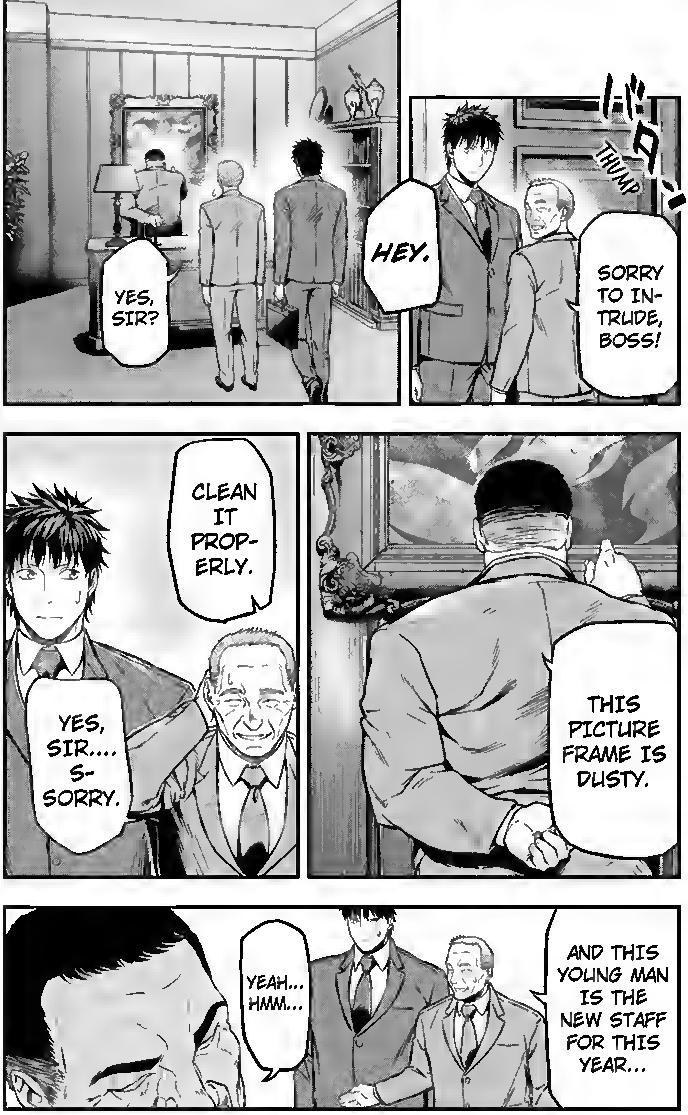
THIS IS A WORK OF FICTION. NAMES, CHARACTERS, PLACES, AND INCIDENTS ... PRODUCTS ... AUTHOR'S IMAGINATION OR ARE USED FICTITIOUSLY.

WAIT... SHOULDN'T WE WAIT FOR THE OTHER NEW EMPLOYEES?*
OH ...
...
YOU'RE THE ONLY NEW HIRE THIS YEAR.
!
BIG PRODUCTION COMPANIES AREN'T LIKE OTHER LARGE BUSINESSES. WE DON'T HAVE THAT MANY STAFF.
NOT TO MENTION WE ALSO HAVE MANY MID-CAREER RE-CRUITS.*
ABOUT FIFTY PEOPLE APPLIED, BUT YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WE HIRED.
I'M THE... ONLY ONE?

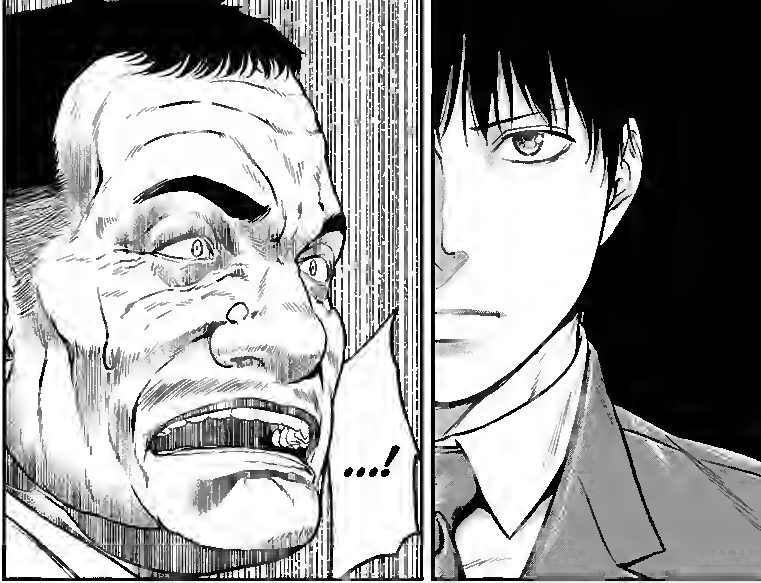
*TRADITIONALLY SPEAKING, MAJOR COMPANIES IN JAPAN HIRE ONLY FRESH GRADS FOR LIFELONG POSITIONS. THEY ARE HIRED ALL AT ONCE IN THE SPRING IMMEDIATELY AFTER GRADUATION. THERE IS A STIGMA AGAINST HIRING SOMEONE WHO HAS WORKED SOMEWHERE ELSE. HIRING OLDER/EXPERIENCED STAFF IS UNUSUAL, THOUGH THINGS HAVE BEEN CHANGING.

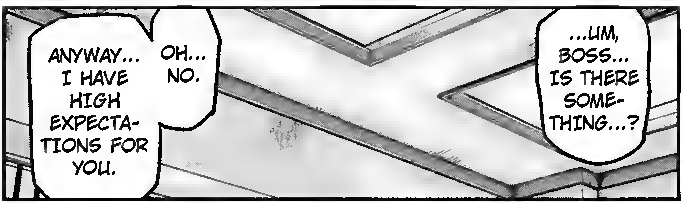
OH, I SEE...
GOOD THING I GOT IN!
SOMETIMES WE FILL UP POSITIONS WITH STARS WHO DON'T SELL ANY-MORE.
AND WE'RE HERE!
THE TENTH FLOOR IS MAINLY OUR FRONT-SIDE BUSINESS... THIS IS WHERE WE WORK DIRECTLY WITH ENTER-TAINMENT PEOPLE.
WE HANDLE MOST OF THE OFFICE WORK ON THE NINTH FLOOR...

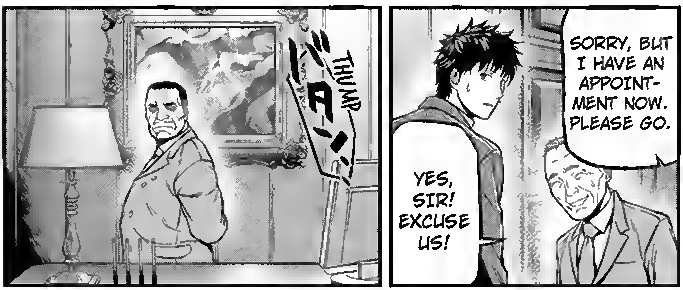
THIS IS THE CEO'S OFFICE.
YOU'RE SCHEDULED TO COME AT THIS TIME, SO HE SHOULD BE IN...
KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK
YEAH. COME IN.
SHOW HIM YOUR SPIRIT!


YES, SIR?
HEY.
THUMP
SORRY TO INTRUDE, BOSS!
CLEAN IT PROPERLY.
YES, SIR.... S-SORRY.
THIS PICTURE FRAME IS DUSTY.
YEAH... HMM...
AND THIS YOUNG MAN IS THE NEW STAFF FOR THIS YEAR...

IT'S HIM... THE MAN I SAW BEFORE!
...AH!
HE'S THE CEO? SO THAT'S WHY HE LOOKED SO IMPORTANT.
ISN'T THAT THE GUY I PASSED BY AT THE DOOR THE OTHER DAY?
HMM ?
HMM... INDEED.
M-MY NAME IS KOUTAROU KUROKI, SIR! I'M VERY PLEASED TO MEET YOU!
POW
...
YOU'RE THE FIRST FRESH GRAD WE'VE HAD IN FEW YEARS, SO...


...!


...UM, BOSS... IS THERE SOME-THING...?
OH... NO.
ANYWAY... I HAVE HIGH EXPECTA-TIONS FOR YOU.


SORRY, BUT I HAVE AN APPOINT-MENT NOW. PLEASE GO.
YES, SIR! EXCUSE US!
THUMP

OH... HEY! TSUKA-MOTO-SAN!
YEAH ?
...
TALKING WITH HIM MAKES ME NERVOUS, NO MATTER HOW OLD I GET!
PHEW!
KUROKI-KUN, THIS IS SECTION CHIEF TSUKAMOTO. HE'LL BE YOUR DIRECT SUPERIOR
I'M TSUKA-MOTO.
SO YOU'RE THE NEWBIE THEY'RE EXCITED ABOUT ...
YOU'RE SO HANDSOME, YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'D DO BETTER AS A STAR THAN AN OFFICE WORKER!
NICE TO MEET YOU, SIR!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...

MAYBE IT WAS BECAUSE I HAD NANBARA ON MY MIND...
CRAP!
SMASH
WHY DIDN'T I REMEMBER BEFORE?
IT'S HIM... IT'S NAKADO!
HE LOOKS JUST LIKE THAT LAWYER WE GOT RID OF TWENTY YEARS AGO...
IN THAT "ACCIDENT"!
OH, CRAP! OH, CRAP! KOUTAROU'S UNDER SUSPICION! I'LL BE...?!